



COMMISSIONER PROFILE

COMMISSIONER WILLIAM BOYUM

Commissioner William (Bill) Boyum was born and raised on a small cattle ranch in the Black Hills of South Dakota, near the town of Custer. Bill and his four sisters still own the ranch and lease it out for grazing.

Education

Bill attended the University of Montana where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry in 1970.

Department of Natural Resources

Immediately after graduating, Bill began his career with the Washington Department of Natural Resources as a Forest Practice Forester in Port Orchard, Washington.

He worked in Olympia for three years in the former Timber Sales Division

before transferring to the Southeast Region at Ellensburg, in 1975.

Bill has worked in various jobs while he has been in Southeast Region in both resource protection and state land management.

Bill is currently the Southeast Region Manager and is responsible for all of the programs that the agency manages.

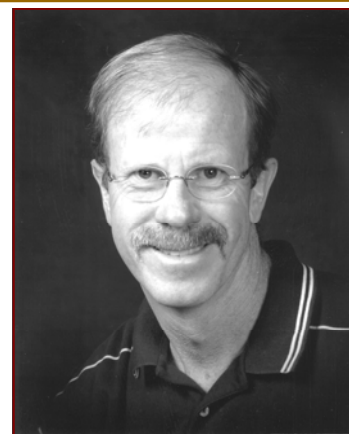
Conservation Commission

Bill serves on the Conservation Commission as an ex officio member representing Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands. Bill has been on the Commission since 1998.

DNR's Southeast Region, which Bill manages, has the bulk of the agricultural land that the agency leases to ranchers and farmers

throughout the state. Bill's involvement with the Conservation Commission is a good fit with his management of the agricultural lands for the state, as both share a similar land ethic.

Commissioner Boyum and his wife Anita on vacation.



Commissioner Boyum

Bill said, "Its rewarding to work with the Commissioners, Commission staff and Conservation Districts to deliver stewardship, conservation and resource protection. They are a great bunch of professionals providing an invaluable service to our state."

Washington Agriculture and Forestry Education and Kittitas County Fair Board

Bill was in Class 3 of the Washington Agriculture and Forestry Education Foundation leadership program. Bill is currently a director on the Kittitas County Fair Board where he just concluded a 2-year term as the Board president.

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"It is rewarding to work with the Commissioners, Commission staff and Conservation Districts to deliver stewardship, conservation and resource protection.

They are a great bunch of professionals providing an invaluable service to our state."
Commissioner Boyum

LEWIS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2004 GRANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Lewis County Conservation District was awarded the Southwest District of the Year by the Commission. (See page 4)

Water Quality Implementation

- 5291 feet of fencing for livestock exclusion from surface water and reimbursed \$9,929.66 in cost share.

Basic Funding

- Plant material sales.
- Provided follow-up to cooperators and helped 81 individuals with the purchase of \$6554 in plant materials.

Local Funding

Lewis County provides the district with funds to assist landowners whose needs fall outside the scope of work of existing grants and for operating expenses that are not grant eligible.

Professional Engineering

- Assistance to 20 landowners in various CAFO/AFO, Irrigation, Habitat, Water Quality, and Small Farm issues or projects.
- Two grants secured for 2005 Construction.
- Two grants pending with likely approval for Construction 2005 (ranked 1 and 2 locally for SRFB).
- Three project designs completed for 2004 construction.
- Three project designs completed with permits pending for 2004 construction.
- Five projects under final design for 2004 construction.
- Member, Technical Advisory Board for Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- 431.9 acres (currently enrolled) of stream buffers.
- Five signups, two new contracts, 62,690 trees and shrubs planted on 31.7 new acres for 1.69 river miles and 30 acres of replant, 1360 feet of fence, \$49,675.02 in maintenance and in cost share.

Dairy

Implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- Two dairy nutrient plans, eight dairy nutrient plans updated, 18 dairies certified, assisted 12 dairy cooperators with soil tests, three dairy cooperators received \$22,762.46 in cost share for the following BMP's – one reel with hose, two roof runoff systems, two waste transfer systems

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- Completed surveys of 310 culverts in the Centralia and Chehalis Area Tributaries, Middle Chehalis, Lincoln and Scammon Creek, walked 33.98 stream miles to complete seven Priority Indexes, held two TAC meetings, submitted 3 reports to IAC.
- Two barrier culverts replaced (USFW/Campbell Group).

Small Farm Programs

- Developed two cost share contracts
- Six nutrient management plans completed, assisted five cooperators with soil tests, eight cooperators seeded 304.5 acres with the district owned No Till Drill.

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Ranking of US Fish & Wildlife grants.
- Met with Chehalis Basin Partnership, USFW Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program Technical Review Committee, assisting in the ranking of grant applications.
- Attended Ag Field Tour with Country Commissioner and Legislatures.
- Member of Chehalis Basin Partnership Water Quality Subcommittee.

Information & Education

- Informational booth at the SW Washington Fair.
- Centralia College used the ground water model in Geology 101 and Environmental Geology, WF West High School used the surface water model. Published 2 articles in local newspaper. District staff assisted with the regional Envirothon at CASEE.

BOYUM, *Continued from page 1.*

Family

Bill and his wife, Anita, live in Ellensburg. They have two children, who are out of the nest and on their own and doing quite well.

Jon is general surgery physician in Burlington, Vermont. Carrie is an emergency room nurse in Portland, Oregon. Bill trusts that his medical needs will be well taken care of in the years to come.



Riparian Buffer in Lewis County

- Participated with Chehalis River Land Trust and Chehalis River Council planting trees and shrubs along the Chehalis River nature trail with 250 students from 8 schools.
- Presentation to the Chehalis River Council Draft TMDL committee.
- Presentation to Livestock Nutrient Oversight Committee.
- Developed flyer for Poultry Litter Distribution.
- Informed poultry producers about AFO/CAFO.

Contact the Lewis County Conservation District at 360.748.0083, ext. 4. They are located at 1554 Bishop Road, Chehalis, Washington 98532

2005-07 WATER QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

By Cheryl Witt

The Grants Policy Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2004 at the Hal Holmes Center in Ellensburg. The meeting, facilitated by Ray Ledgerwood, will result in development of a recommendation for the 2005-07 Water Quality Implementation Grants Program that will be presented to the Conservation Commission at the December 1, 2004 meeting.

Committee members made up of conservation district representatives from the six areas of the state, will have their work cut out for them. In order to develop a considered recommendation, the group will spend time reviewing the latest Joint Legislative Audit & Review follow-up report, reviewing the 03-05 grants program, brainstorming about what the upcoming biennium's program should look like, and coming to consensus on a 2005-07 program recommendation.

The Water Quality Implementation Grants Program has a long history as a primary source of funding for conservation districts. Not only is the funding an integral piece of all 48 conservation district programs, but, for some smaller CDs, it represents the only source of funding for "getting conservation on the ground".

Evolution of the Water Quality Grants Program

On February 15, 1986, The Centennial Clean Water Fund (Water Quality Account) was created by the legislature. Providing financing for water pollution control activities and facilities, this legislation was one of the most significant environmental laws passed in our state's history for protecting and enhancing the quality of the surface and underground waters of the state.

1987-1989, 1989-1991, and 1991-1993 Bienniums

The Conservation Commission received 2½ percent of the legislative biennial Water Quality Account appropriation for distribution to conservation districts. Of the 2½ percent, 10 percent was set aside for research grants. Both conservation district and research grants were awarded through a competitive process.

1993-1995 Biennium

The Commission continued to receive 2½ percent of the legislative biennial Water Quality Account appropriation for distribution to conservation districts. However, in order to better meet the needs of all 48 conservation districts, the Commission changed its policy for distributing these funds. Ten percent for research grants and a small pot for competitive grants was still set aside, but the remainder of the funding

was distributed as a \$25,000/biennium Allocation Grant to each conservation district.

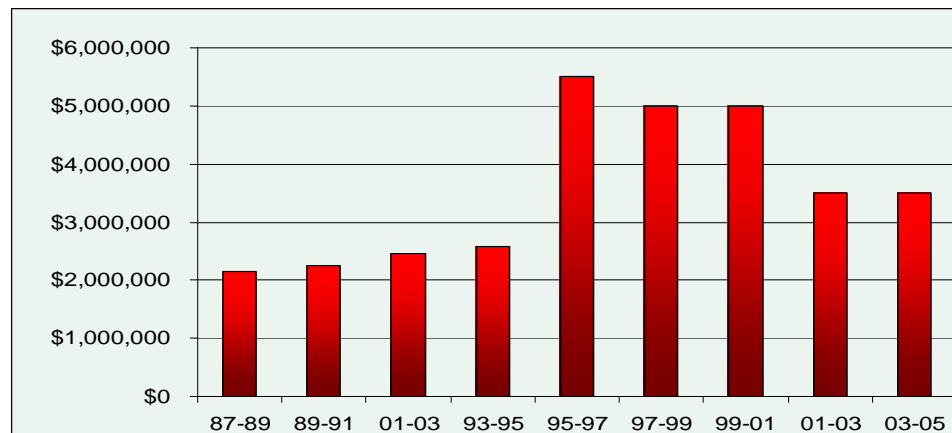
1995-1997, 1997-99 and 1999-2001 Bienniums

The 2½ percent and the research grant restrictions dropped out of the legislative language, and the Commission received specified amounts each biennium for distribution to conservation districts. In order to better reflect the types of activities that were being accomplished with the grant funds, Allocation Grants became \$80,000/biennium Implementation Grants to each conservation district. A small competitive pot of money was also distributed each of the three bienniums.

2001-2003 and 2003-2005 Bienniums

The Commission received \$3.5 million per biennium for the Water Quality Grants Program. Initiated in the 2001-2003 Biennium as a test run, the Commission awarded 2003-2005 funding based on statewide evaluations that considered the level of implementation activities in each grant project. Two levels of funding, with the higher level being 30% above the lower level, were distributed. In order to receive the higher level of funding, a district project needed to dedicate 60% or more of their total project costs to funding implementation activities.

*Water Quality Funding
For Districts*



CONSERVATION COMMISSION WACD SOUTHWEST AREA MEETING AWARDS

Lewis County Conservation District—Southwest District of the Year

State Auditor Brian Sonntag recognized the excellence of the Lewis County CD in a letter:

Congratulations on the Lewis County Conservation District's fifth consecutive audit without a finding. This accomplishment exemplifies the District's dedication to sound financial operations and fiscal integrity.

The District's proactive approach to operational and audit-related matters helps ensure the proper use of public resources. We recognize and appreciate the District's willingness to work in cooperation with our office in order to achieve that goal.

We also appreciate District management's constructive responses to recommendations made as a result of the audits. The District has taken positive steps to protect public dollars by identifying and assessing the risks related to

misappropriation and abuse, and by taking action to prevent or detect such instances. This was exemplified in the District's immediate response to weaknesses identified in the cost-share grant program.

Results of the Commission's operations review and grants review were excellent. District elections and appointments follow published procedures. The Lewis County Conservation District actively involves cooperators in deliberating actions that may affect producers. Farm plans are reviewed by the Board in detail, and the farm plan owner is often invited to a Board meeting to discuss the plan with the Board.



Lewis County Conservation District
SW District of the Year
Mark Clark presented the award to Bob Amrine, District
Manager at the September 29, 2004
WACD SW Area Meet

Nick Somero, Pacific Conservation District—Southwest Supervisor of the Year

For nearly 20 years, Nick Somero has served on the Pacific CD Board of Supervisors, exhibiting professionalism, honesty, integrity, teamwork and strong leadership towards conservation practices.

Nick served many years as District Chair with extraordinary leadership and enthusiasm for putting conservation on the ground and building strong partnerships along the way. Nick has chaired many committees. He recently served as an Area Director for the Southwest Washington Area Association of Conservation Districts. He also devoted substantial time chairing the Southwest Area Local Work Group.

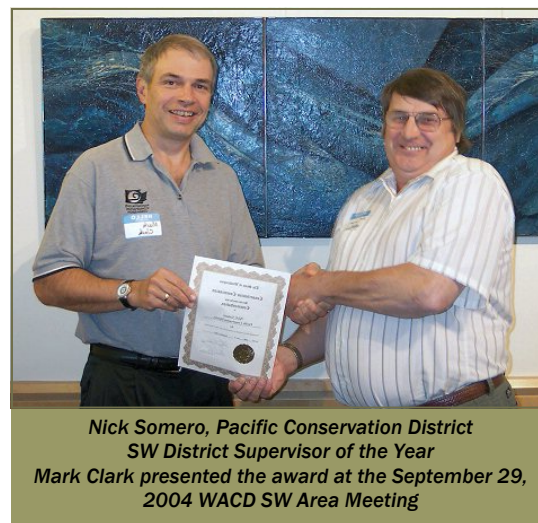
Nick is a pillar in the community. He is well liked and respected by virtually everyone in the local area and conservation community as well as the Board of Supervisors and District Staff.

Nick was punctual and had an outstanding record for attending monthly Board meetings and annual WACD conventions. Nick was available day or night for District business.

Nick's family has been a part of Pacific County for many generations. He has never forgotten what grassroots and community mean. Nick ran one of the most respected log hauling and road building companies in Pacific County. He also worked for the Quinalt Indian Nation as their Forest Road Manager.

Nick believes in strong relationships between the conservation districts and NRCS. Several months ago, Nick accepted a position with NRCS and had to resign his position as Chair of the PCD.

Nick's leadership on behalf of the Pacific CD will be missed by the District, Area Association, Washington Association of Conservation Districts and the Washington State Conservation Commission.



Nick Somero, Pacific Conservation District
SW District Supervisor of the Year
Mark Clark presented the award at the September 29,
2004 WACD SW Area Meeting

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WACD SOUTHWEST AREA MEETING AWARDS

Denise Smee, Clark Conservation District—Southwest District Manager of the Year

Clark CD supervisors told us this about Denise:

The four attributes that come immediately to mind about Denise are good listening skills, an ability to synthesize Supervisors comments and her own into a unified position, innovative thinking, and willingness to get involved in local and regional groups to support and improve various causes for the District and the Commission. Denise epitomizes commitment to the Clark Conservation District mission and helping the board and staff work together constructively.

Denise's listening skills and calm demeanor not only are important when interacting with the Board but also with the general public and conservation partners. This has been especially important to the District when there are differences of opinion with partners or there are confusing or

changing policies with the implementation of USDA programs and grant programs. She has demonstrated patience, a cooperative spirit and good knowledge of the circumstances before taking action, while being decisive once the decision is made. A few examples of Denise's

innovative abilities are: improving our annual native plant sale to be much more streamlined in pre-sale and sale day activities; obtaining a manure spreader for small farmers use that do not have funds to own one; and improving many of our District operating policies and procedures.

Denise has been highly active in the Envirothon, coordinating and hosting the Area and State Envirothons. She serves on the WACD team for urban conservation focus, and with the SW Area Local Working Group prioritizing the USDA funds for their new conservation funding that allows local input on priorities.



Denise Smee, Clark Conservation District
SW District Manager of the Year
Mark Clark presented the award to at the
September 29, 2004 WACD SW Area Meeting

Nikki Wilson, Lewis County Conservation District—Southwest District Employee of the Year

Nikki Wilson began working at the Lewis County Conservation District in March of 2000. She began as a conservation planner and used District GIS hardware and software to develop field and soils maps, putting her BS in Agriculture Technology and Management from WSU to good use. She attended some training in GIS but basically taught herself to be very proficient in developing maps.

Nikki quickly became an NRCS certified planner and worked with numerous dairies and landowners to develop nutrient management plans. Nikki was later promoted to the District CREP Coordinator position.

Nikki's title is now CREP Coordinator and GIS Specialist. Nikki produces maps for culvert surveys being

completed by the District and continues to develop field and soils maps for conservation planners. She also coordinates the CREP program in Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties.



Nikki Wilson, Lewis County Conservation District
SW District Employee of the Year
Mark Clark presented the award at the September 29,

Nikki also provides IT assistance on computers at the District, which at times is crucial for efficient, productive operation of the District. Nikki is a dependable, conscientious, responsible and productive Lewis County Conservation District employee.

Nikki practices fiscal responsibility when recommending CREP planting and maintenance practices. These issues are extremely important to the Lewis County Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

The Conservation Commission is pleased to present the 2004 employee-of-the-year award to Nikki Wilson.



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The mission of the Washington State Conservation Commission is to lead the citizens of the state in the wise stewardship, conservation, and protection of soil, water, and related natural resources on private lands. The Conservation Commission does this by providing structure and leadership for good governance by conservation districts who provide education, technical assistance, and implementation of land management practices.

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COMMISSION CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

2 Election Day
4 PSAT Meeting
5 Watershed Meeting
Agriculture Caucus Mtg
9 Information Due to Commission
for December Meeting
11 Veterans Day (Holiday)
19 Agriculture Caucus Mtg
25 Thanksgiving Day
26 Thanksgiving Holiday
28 WACD O&D Meeting—Tacoma
29-30 WACD Annual Meeting—Tacoma

DECEMBER

1 WACD Breakfast—Tacoma
WSCC Meeting—Tacoma
2 SRFB Mtg & Parks & Rec Mtg
3 SRFB Mtg continued
9 Centennial Accord Mtg
20 Governor Locke Announces
2005-07 Budget
23 Information Due to Commission
for January Meeting
24 Christmas Holiday
25 Christmas
31 New Years Eve (Holiday)

WSCC DECEMBER MEETING
December 1, 2004
Sheraton Hotel
1320 Broadway Plaza
Tacoma, Washington

JANUARY 2005

Legislature Comes to Town
1 New Years Day
10 Session Begins
13 Installation of All Statewide
Elected Officials Completed
14 Agriculture Caucus Mtg.
19 WSCC Tour & Interaction Dinner
20 WSCC Commission Meeting
28 Agriculture Caucus Meeting

FEBRUARY 2005

2 Groundhog Day
14 Happy Valentine's Day
Agriculture Caucus Mtg.
21 President's Day
25 Agriculture Caucus Day

The Conservation Conversation newsletters are available online at:

<http://filecab.scc.wa.gov/index.html?DIR=Commission/Newsletters>